

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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***Indianapolis Programs Receive Millions Of Federal Dollars to
Battle Homelessness***

A planned day center for the homeless and new programs to aid the homeless mentally ill, substance abusers and victims of domestic violence are among the recipients of federal grants to combat homelessness in Indianapolis.

The City of Indianapolis, on behalf of local entities that serve the homeless, has received approximately \$3.7 million in grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. These grant funds will support four new local initiatives and allow eight existing programs that serve the homeless in Indianapolis to continue operations.

The grants, announced in December, are part of an aid package totaling more than \$1 billion that HUD will award nationwide to programs designed to end homelessness. More than 200,000 people nationwide will be helped by the grants.

"HUD's grant funds supporting the homeless in this city have a tremendous impact," said Indianapolis Mayor Bart Peterson. "The services administered by local grant recipients provide the homeless in our community with empowering resources that meet both immediate and long term needs."

Most of the funds will be awarded as Continuum of Care grants for which communities compete annually. These grants are targeted to initiatives designed to help the homeless in moving towards greater self-sufficiency and assist in obtaining permanent housing. Indianapolis projects were prioritized through a local planning process and then included in the City's application for Continuum of Care funds.

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The Continuum of Care grants, first awarded in 1994, have assisted more than 400,000 homeless people nationwide in obtaining both housing and jobs. Currently, about 6,000 national community programs receive Continuum of Care funding, which has leveraged nearly \$2 billion in additional public and private dollars.

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New Indianapolis programs receiving Continuum of Care grants are:

- **Midtown Community Mental Health Center's "Mobile Homelessness Resource Team"**: \$573,050 to provide intensive mental health and substance abuse counseling as part of a street outreach program for the homeless mentally ill.
- **Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation**: \$521,850 for a residential treatment program for homeless substance abusers. While the project is targeted to veterans, non-veterans also will be served.
- **Horizon House**: \$228,931 to operate on weekday evenings and on weekends. Located at 1033 E. Washington Street, the day center for the homeless is anticipated to open in spring 2001.
- **The Julian Center**: \$179,550 to construct 11 transitional housing units for families that are victims of domestic violence. Transitional housing serves as a bridge between emergency shelter and permanent housing.

Ongoing Indianapolis programs that will receive Continuum of Care grants include:

- **The Homeless Initiative Program**: \$754,642 for medical, outreach, case management and employment services to the homeless; \$437,353 to provide rental payment assistance, skills training, and additional support services.
- **Westside Community Development Corp.**: \$160,255 for intensive case management, mental health counseling, transportation and other support services for clients in transitional housing.
- **Martin Luther King Community Development Corp.**: \$113,709 for Coburn Place, a transitional housing program for victims of domestic violence.
- **Adult and Child Mental Health Center**: \$147,510 for a transitional housing program for the seriously mentally ill.
- **Dayspring Center**: \$140,503 for Wellspring, a transitional housing program for homeless families.

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- **Midtown Community Mental Health Center:** \$315,080 for First Home, a shelter for the homeless mentally ill; \$175,943 for Project Home, a transitional housing program for homeless women.

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